

Appl. No. 10/697,900
Amdt. dated July 18, 2006
Reply to Office action of June 29, 2006

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A method for managing electronic mail return receipts using audio-visual notification comprising the steps of:

initiating an electronic mail return receipt operation;
determining features of a return receipt notification display;
detecting a message at the receiver destination;
transmitting a return receipt back to the message initiator;
capturing the return receipt at the message initiator location;
identifying the specific receiver destination transmitting the return receipt; and
displaying the specific receiver destination to the message initiator.

Claim 2 (Canceled)

Claim 3 (Original) The method as described in claim 1 further comprising before said return receipt transmitting step, the step of creating a queue at a receiver destination and queuing a return receipt notification in response to the detection of the opening of a message at the receiver destination.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim 1 2 wherein said display type determination step further comprises prompting the message initiator to select a return receipt notification display procedure.

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Claim 5 (Currently Amended) A method for managing electronic mail return receipts using audio-visual notification comprising the steps of:

initiating an electronic mail return receipt operation;

determining features of a return receipt notification display, by prompting a message initiator to select a return receipt notification display procedure and capturing a highlighted recipient of the message at the message initiator location when a recipient has received and opened the message;

detecting a message at the receiver destination;

transmitting a return receipt back to the message initiator;

capturing the return receipt at the message initiator location;

identifying the specific receiver destination transmitting the return receipt; and

displaying the specific receiver destination to the message initiator.

~~The method as described in claim 4 wherein the return receipt notification display procedure comprises highlighting a recipient of the message at the message initiator location when a recipient has received and opened the message.~~

Claim 6 (Original) The method as described in claim 4 wherein the return receipt notification display procedure comprises creating a list of recipients of the original message at the message initiator location and indicating when a recipient from the recipient list has received and opened the message.

Claim 7 (Original) The method as described in claim 1 wherein said return receipt capturing step further comprises:

intercepting an incoming message at the message initiator location;

determining whether the detected message is message disposition notification;

when the determination is the detected message is a message disposition notification, identifying the original message at the message initiator location; and

matching the sender of the message disposition notification to a corresponding recipient on the original message transmitted by the message initiator.

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Claim 8 (Original) The message as described in claim 7 further comprising before said matching step, the step of determining whether the original transmitted message had multiple recipients.

Claim 9 (Canceled)

Claim 10 (Canceled)

Claim 11 (Canceled)

Claim 12 (Canceled)

Claim 13 (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for managing electronic mail return receipts using audio-visual notification comprising:

instructions for initiating an electronic mail return receipt operation;
instructions for determining features of a return receipt notification display;
instructions for detecting a message at the receiver destination;
instructions for transmitting a return receipt back to the message initiator;
instructions for capturing the return receipt at the message initiator location;
instructions for identifying the specific receiver destination transmitting the return receipt; and
instructions for displaying the specific receiver destination to the message initiator.

Claim 14 (Canceled)

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Claim 15 (Currently Amended) The computer program product as described in claim 13 12 further comprising before said return receipt transmitting instructions, instructions for creating a queue at a receiver destination and instructions for queuing a return receipt notification in response to the detection of the opening of a message at the receiver destination.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended) The computer program product as described in claim 13 14 wherein said display type determination instructions further comprise instructions for prompting the message initiator to select a return receipt notification display procedure.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for managing electronic mail return receipts using audio-visual notification comprising:

instructions for initiating an electronic mail return receipt operation;
instructions for determining features of a return receipt notification display
including instructions for prompting a message initiator to select a return receipt
notification display procedure and instructions for capturing a highlighted recipient of the
message at the message initiator location when a recipient has received and opened the
message;

instructions for detecting a message at the receiver destination;
instructions for transmitting a return receipt back to the message initiator;
instructions for capturing the return receipt at the message initiator location;
instructions for identifying the specific receiver destination transmitting the return
receipt; and
instructions for displaying the specific receiver destination to the message
initiator.

~~The computer program product as described in claim 16 wherein the return receipt notification display procedure comprises instructions for highlighting a recipient of the~~

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~~message at the message initiator location when a recipient has received and opened the message.~~

Claim 18 (Original) The computer program product as described in claim 16 wherein the return receipt notification display procedure comprises instructions for creating a list of recipients of the original message at the message initiator location and instructions for indicating when a recipient from the recipient list has received and opened the message.

Claim 19 (Original) The computer program product as described in claim 13 wherein said return receipt capturing instructions further comprise:

instructions for intercepting an incoming message at the message initiator location;

instructions for determining whether the detected message is message disposition notification;

when the determination is the detected message is a message disposition notification, instructions for identifying the original message at the message initiator location; and

instructions for matching the sender of the message disposition notification to a corresponding recipient on the original message transmitted by the message initiator.

Claim 20 (Original) The computer program product as described in claim 19 further comprising before said matching instruction, instructions for determining whether the original transmitted message had multiple recipients.

Claim 21 (Canceled)

Claim 22 (Canceled)

Claims 23 (Canceled)

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Claim 24 (Canceled)

Claim 25 (New) The method as described in claim 5 wherein the return receipt notification display procedure comprises creating a list of recipients of the original message at the message initiator location and indicating when a recipient from the recipient list has received and opened the message.

Claim 26 (New) The method as described in claim 5 wherein said return receipt capturing step further comprises:

intercepting an incoming message at the message initiator location;
determining whether the detected message is message disposition notification;
when the determination is the detected message is a message disposition notification, identifying the original message at the message initiator location; and
matching the sender of the message disposition notification to a corresponding recipient on the original message transmitted by the message initiator.

Claim 27 (New) The computer program product as described in claim 17 wherein the return receipt notification display procedure comprises instructions for creating a list of recipients of the original message at the message initiator location and instructions for indicating when a recipient from the recipient list has received and opened the message.

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Claim 28 (New) The computer program product as described in claim 17 wherein said return receipt capturing instructions further comprise:

instructions for intercepting an incoming message at the message initiator location;

instructions for determining whether the detected message is message disposition notification;

when the determination is the detected message is a message disposition notification, instructions for identifying the original message at the message initiator location; and

instructions for matching the sender of the message disposition notification to a corresponding recipient on the original message transmitted by the message initiator.